



WORSLEY URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR 1952



WORSLEY URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR 1952



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30295610>

Worsley Urban District Council

Chairman of the Council—

Councillor ALFRED ERNEST WALKER, J.P.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1952

Councillor ERNEST MANN, J.P., Chairman.

Councillor J. E. TAYLOR, J.P., Vice-Chairman.

Mr. J. Haydock	The Chairman of the Council
Mr. J. Pennington, J.P.	Mr. S. Wood, C.C.
Mrs. M. Wood	Mr. E. H. Marsh, J.P.
Mr. F. Eastham, J.P.	Mr. J. Eastham, J.P., C.A.
Mr. S. Mann	Mr. J. Yates
	Mrs. A. Lightbown, J.P.

Clerk of the Council—

H. LOMAX, Esq.

Medical Officer of Health—

M. K. CARROLL, M.B., Ch.B., BA.O., N.U.I.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent—

T. ISHERWOOD,
M.R.San. I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

F. HAWORTH, M.S.I.A.

Lady Clerks and Typists—

Miss M. MORRIS.

Miss R. WOOD.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR, 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council or Worsley.

June, 1953.

It gives me pleasure to present my report for the year ending 1952.

Public Health has grown from the notification of disease and elementary sanitary precautions until it embraces practically the whole of the life of the community.

The public have become much more health conscious and are anxious to take advantage of the many health facilities at their disposal.

Many of these are now taken out of the hands of the Local Authorities and are administered by the County Council on a regional basis and through the Divisional Health Committee.

This has been most marked in connection with the various clinics. The percentage of women attending ante-natal clinics is enormous compared with what it was a few years ago and this has had a marked effect in safer childbirth and in the improved health of babies and young children whose welfare is followed up through the early years.

Children who have some handicap, physical or mental, receive special attention and are graded and placed in the groups where they can receive most benefit. Special senses are keenly watched and where there is partial blindness or deafness most beneficial results are obtained by the early diagnosis and the prevention which can be immediately resorted to. Many cases of total blindness are now avoided.

It is a matter of pride that whilst the maternal mortality was high a few years ago, last year there were 374 live births in the district without a case of maternal mortality.

The infantile mortality, that is, deaths under one year of age was 12 out of the above total. This is shown as an infantile mortality rate of 32 per 1,000. Less than 50 years ago it was over 246 per thousand in two of the Wards in Worsley, which meant that only three out of every four babies survived the first year.

The children of to-day are well cared for and nutritional defects due to defective metabolism, such as rickets, are almost unknown, for the slightest tendency is detected and preventive measures are resorted to immediately.

During the year the incidence of Infectious Disease was by no means high. There were the usual mild cases of Measles and Whooping Cough. There were 175 cases of Measles compared with 516 cases last year and 38 cases of Whooping Cough compared with 149 cases. There were no deaths from either. There were 58 cases of Scarlet Fever against 96 the previous year. One case of Poliomyelitis of the non-paralytic type was reported. The Birth rate of 14.1 per 1,000 is nearly the same as last year which was 14.4 per 1,000 live births. The mortality rate of 12.6 per 1,000 is lower than last year which was 15.1 per 1,000.

I consider the health of the district to have been very satisfactory during the year.

The work of the Department is growing and becoming more varied owing to fresh legislation. Steady progress has been maintained but nothing of a very spectacular nature has occurred.

I wish to take this opportunity of again returning my sincere thanks to the Chairman of the Council, Councillor A. E. Walker, J.P., the members of the Council, and the officers for their kindly interest and sympathetic messages I received during my recent illness. It was a tonic to me and I am more than pleased to report that I have made a good recovery.

I would also like to state that I am very much indebted to the staff of the Public Health Service for the efficient way they have carried on the work of the Department not only during my absence but consistently throughout the year. Many requests are made on all kinds of subjects by the residents during the course of the day and all these have been adequately and pleasantly attended to.

I thank you all for your consideration and co-operation.

Table I.—STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Area—7,242 acres.

Population—Registrar General's estimate of :—

(a) resident population mid 1952	...	...	27,900
(b) average population for calculation of death rates 1952	...	...	27,900

No. of inhabited houses, according to Rate Books at the end of 1952—9,239.

Rateable Value 1952—£155,331.

Sum represented by a penny rate 1952—£590.

Table II.—VITAL STATISTICS, 1952.

		Total M. F.			Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—14.1.
Births Live	Legitimate ...	361	201	160	
	Illegitimate ...	13	7	6	
	Total...	<u>374</u>	<u>208</u>	<u>166</u>	

Still Births ... 11 9 2 Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—29.

Deaths (all ages) ... 341 211 167 Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated average population—12.6.

Maternal Mortality :—

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ... Nil.
Mortality rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) ... Nil.

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... 32

Neo-natal mortality :—

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age ... 7
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... 19

The Birth Rate (14.1) is lower than that for England and Wales (15.3) and the Death Rate (12.6) is higher (11.3).

The Infantile Mortality Rate (32) is higher than that for England and Wales (27.6).

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year

Table III.—CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1952
CLASSIFIED LIST OF CAUSES

						Males	Females
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...				3	2
Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Cancer, stomach	...	...	...	...	...	6	5
Cancer, other forms	...	...	...	...	...	16	24
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	0	2
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...			29	29
Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	54	71
Other circulatory diseases			...	...	...	8	13
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	3	0
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	6	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	15	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...			3	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...			3	1
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...		1	0
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...		4	0
Congenital Malformation	...	...	...	...		4	1
Road Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Other Accidents	...	...	..	...	...	6	1
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	10	9
						<hr/>	<hr/>
All Causes:—						174	167
TOTAL ...						341	

Section F.— Prevalance of, and Control Over,
Infectious Disease.

Table IV

Disease	Corr'cted Total of notified cases	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	58	28	—
Measles (excluding German Measles) ...	175	1	—
Whooping cough	38	1	—
Erysipelas... ..	5	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	10	1	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Dysentery... ..	3	2	—
Total number of cases ...	290	34	—

TABLE V.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1942.

CASES NOTIFIED.														
DISEASE.	Total cases at all Ages.	Under 1 yr.	YEARS.									65 and over	Age un-known	
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45			45-65
Scarlet Fever ...	58	—	—	2	5	8	31	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding German Measles ...	175	10	10	37	24	25	68	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	38	6	7	3	9	6	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—
Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ...	10	5	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	3	—
Dysentery... ..	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	290	22	18	43	38	40	106	13	5	4	1	3	6	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table VI.

New Cases and Mortality During 1952

Age Periods.				NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
				Resp't'y		non-Resp't'ry		Resp't'y		non-Resp't'ry	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years	0—1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	1—5	...	...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
„	5—10	...	...	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
„	10—15	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	15—20	...	...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	20—25	...	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	25—35	...	...	7	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
„	35—45	...	...	3	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
„	45—55	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	55—65	...	...	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
„	65 & upwards	...	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals				16	12	—	4	4	2	—	—
				32				6			

There has been no important change in these provisions during the year.

The following pathological and bacteriological examinations were made during 1952.

- (1) Diphtheria, 3.
- (2) Typhoid (Salmonella and Dysentery Group), 3.
- (3) Ice Cream, 26.
- (4) Others, 2.

M. K. CARROLL,
Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1952.

June, 1953.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Worsley Urban District Council.

I have the honour to present my report for the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1952.

There has been one change in the Clerical Staff. Mrs. Hallam, J.P. has resigned and her place has been taken by Miss R. Wood.

The change of policy concerning the supervision of refuse collecting has been justified and Mr. T. Smith the Road Foreman has been confirmed in his appointment as joint foreman for the two departments. He supervises the collection of refuse as well as following his ordinary duties with the Surveyor's Department.

We have five large Karrier C.K.3. refuse collecting wagons and a smaller Karrier Bantam for casual work. Each of the large wagons has a trailer attached for the collection of waste paper and salvage. There was a decided decline in the need for waste paper during the early part of the year. The demand is again slowly growing but we only obtain £4 per ton now against £16 during part of the previous year.

In some districts we can almost make a weekly collection of refuse but with the growing population and the increased number of houses due to the Salford Overspill we shall have to increase the number of wagons and staff if we are to maintain what is proving to be a satisfactory collection.

Rodent Control no longer gives much cause for anxiety. We have it well in hand and the last survey of the sewers was most satisfactory. I am well satisfied with the results of Warfarin for the extermination of rats and mice.

Atmospheric pollution is still a grave problem. The efforts of the National Coal Board to remedy the emission of smoke from the chimney of a colliery adjoining our district have not yet been completed. Some of the improvements at the plant have been installed but vast quantities of smoke are still being blown across our district and the nuisance is far from being abated. The work is still proceeding and we expect a great improvement in the near future.

Another nuisance from smoke is becoming more apparent. Locomotives for shunting on the mineral lines have always given out smoke but this was hardly noticed when the district was more sparsely

populated. Now that housing estates are spreading on to what was open moorland, and houses are encroaching on the railways, the smoke nuisance is becoming a real problem for which a solution will have to be found in the very near future.

The Housing Problem is becoming more and more acute. New houses are being built in a most creditable manner but the dilapidations in the older houses are becoming appalling. Many houses which are worth saving are becoming unfit for habitation, as the repairs and remedies which we can enforce are, at the best, only palliative. I have reported elsewhere on this and as it is a nation-wide problem with which you are all familiar I will not cover the same ground again in this report. I am looking forward to the time, in the very near future, I hope, when all the houses in the Clearance Areas will have been dealt with and we can embark on a new programme which will wipe out some of our worst areas.

I am again indebted to Mr. Potter the Housing Manager for the following details of houses built and contemplated. As the figures are so concise and valuable I include them here for the purpose of placing them on record for the future.

New Houses erected during the year

By Local Authority for Worsley	...	...	...	...	96
By Local Authority for Salford	...	...	...	...	167
By private persons	...	...	...	...	21
In process of erection for Worsley	...	...	...	...	125
In process of erection for Salford	...	...	...	...	452
Contemplated for Worsley	...	...	...	...	150
Contemplated for Salford	...	...	...	...	650
Dwellings overcrowded	...	...	...	...	132
No. of families involved	...	...	...	...	180
No. of persons involved	...	...	...	...	707
New cases of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	6
Cases of overcrowding relieved	...	...	...	...	16
No. of persons concerned	...	...	...	...	71

Council Houses required.

Bungalows or Flats with one bedroom	...	...	...	136
Bungalows or Flats with two bedrooms	...	...	...	88
Houses with two bedrooms	...	...	...	66
Houses with three bedrooms	...	...	...	195
Houses with four bedrooms	...	...	...	20
				<hr/> 505 <hr/>

The following detailed lists show the amount and variety of things with which the department is called upon to deal as a matter of routine.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Dwelling Houses (P.H.A. & H.A.)	...	...	...	...	190
Inspections for above	...	...	...	...	665
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	66
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	65
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	37
Other Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	26
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	48
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	24
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	15
Factories	...	...	...	...	59
Caravans	...	...	...	...	5
Schools	...	...	...	...	21
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	27
Rag Flock Premises	...	...	...	...	2
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	14
Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	7
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	73
Insect Pests	...	...	...	...	15
Drainage	...	...	...	...	89
Streams	...	...	...	...	2
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	4
Tips, Salvage, etc.	...	...	...	...	23
Petrol Licences	...	...	...	...	33
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	7
Air Raid Shelters	...	...	...	...	5
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	6
Unfounded Complaints	...	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	75
Contractors and owners seen	...	...	...	...	27
Land Charge Searches	...	...	...	...	403

Milk Supply.

The following licences under the Milk (Special Designations (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, have been issued :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk	(1)	Bottling	...	...	...	Nil.
	(2)	Distribution	...	...	...	13
Accredited Milk	(1)	Bottling	...	...	...	Nil.
	(2)	Distribution	...	...	...	Nil.

The following licences under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilized) Regulations, 1949, have been issued :—

Pasteurised Milk	(1)	Plants	...	...	...	Nil.
	(2)	Retail Distributors	...	...	...	24
Sterilized	(1)	Plant	...	...	...	Nil.
	(2)	Retail Distributors	...	...	...	69

NUISANCES AND DEFECTS FOUND.

Damp Walls	...	...	...	...	...	76
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	...	63
Broken and perished plaster	...	...	...	...	...	67
Defective and damp floors	...	...	...	...	...	18
Defective window frames	...	...	...	...	...	44
Defective Stone sills	...	...	...	...	...	14
Defective sashcords	...	...	...	...	...	19
Defective glazing	...	...	...	...	...	26
Defective fireranges	...	...	...	...	...	18
Defective ovens	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective doors	...	...	...	...	...	15
Bulging and cracked walls	...	...	...	...	...	26
Defective gutters	...	...	...	...	...	36
Defective pointing to walls	...	...	...	...	...	56
Burst water pipes	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective washboilers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Defective skirtings	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective stairs	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective handrails	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective waste pipes	...	...	...	...	...	9
Defective rainwater pipes	...	...	...	...	...	13
Choked and defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	27
Defective chimney flues and stacks	...	...	...	...	...	10
Defective paths	...	...	...	...	...	25
Defective taps	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective water tank	...	...	...	...	...	1
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	...	3

Defective outbuildings	...	...	...	1
Defective yard walls and gates		...	...	13
Defective W.C. structure	...	...	...	4
Defective W.C. basins	...	...	...	5
Defective W.C. seat	...	...	...	3
Defective W.C. cistern and pipes		...	...	13
Defective W.W.C.'s.	...	...	...	3
Water in cellar	...	...	...	1
Stagnant water	...	...	...	3
Foul smells	...	...	...	7
Cockroaches	...	...	...	5
Bugs	...	...	...	4
Silver Fish	...	...	...	1
Animals a nuisance	...	...	...	2
Dirty Houses	...	...	...	2
Accumulation of rubbish	...	...	...	3
Defective dustbins	...	...	...	13
Miscellaneous nuisances and defects			...	25

CONDEMNED FOOD — 1952.

	lbs.
Ham	248
Beans	137 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dried Milk	16
Beef	232
Evaporated Milk	16
Luncheon Meat	50
Veal	47 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pigs Heads	309
Sausages	16 $\frac{1}{2}$
Meat Paste	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bacon	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Chicken	34 $\frac{3}{4}$
Turkey	149

Rabbit	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	81½
Peas	...	...	...	...	...	...	8¾
Baking Powder			...	...	...	...	8½
Cake Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	...	53½
Cake	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Tomatoes		...	...	...	...	...	34
Tea	...	...	...	..	...	...	15
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	...	26½
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	9¼
Tinned Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	3¼
Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dumplings	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	5¼
							<hr/> 1,582½ lbs. <hr/>

SALVAGE COLLECTED DURING THE YEAR 1952 WAS MADE UP AS FOLLOWS :—

				T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Material									
Paper	...	...	...	138	2	0	952	17	8
Kitchen Waste	...	...		21	4	0	68	17	0
Scrap Metal	...	...		2	10	3	6	6	11
				<hr/> 161	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 3	<hr/> £1,028	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 7

Month.				T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
January	...	...	...	15	2	3	230	3	10
February	...	...	...	15	8	1	235	8	2
March	...	...	...	12	0	3	142	3	8
April	...	...	...	4	9	2	41	11	0
May	...	...	...	1	10	0	4	10	0

June	...	...	...	12	5	0	36	15	0
July	...	...	...	36	12	2	109	17	6
August	...	...	...	10	12	3	32	12	3
September	...	...	...	13	8	3	41	3	9
October	...	...	...	12	7	2	44	7	5
November	...	...	...	19	19	1	78	12	0
December	...	...	...	7	19	3	30	17	0
				161	16	3	£1,028	1	7

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1952.

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All Others	Total
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's district.	17	8322	22	959	9331
2. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result of (a) a notification (b) survey or otherwise.	(a) 11	180	6	14	211
	(b) 20	76	28	3	127
3. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by rats.	Major	—	—	—	—
	Minor 11	131	34	15	191
4. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by mice.	10	36	—	—	46
5. Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority.	21	167	1	15	204

During the year all the schools have been inspected and details taken of the sanitary accommodation and washing facilities. Five still have the trough closets instead of fresh water closets with individual flushing arrangements. One large school has changed from the troughs to the separate system during the year. Efforts are being made to bring them all to the individual flushing types of closet.

There is very little slaughtering being carried out in Worsley. Two of the private slaughterhouses are recognised as being available for use for emergency slaughter and for the killing of pigs under licence. This is more advantageous than casual slaughter on farms which I have always discouraged. There is a fair amount of co-operation and I am able to inspect and advise on most of the pigs killed for private use.

Bakehouses and food premises are kept under supervision and there has been nothing of an unusual nature during the year. There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning and the amount of food condemned as unfit for human consumption has been lower than I ever remember.

There is an increase in the number of canal boats working from the Worsley Boat Yard and passing through. Frequent inspections are made but there is seldom any infringement of the law and nothing but what can be remedied by a few minutes friendly conversation. I get the greatest co-operation from all concerned.

Very few of the boat captains live on board now as they did when I first dealt with Canal Boats. Most of them have homes in the district and seldom sleep on board, although the larger boats are all licenced for this purpose. There have been no families living on the boats working from Worsley for several years.

On the whole I consider it has been a year of steady and practical advancement. I cannot say I am satisfied with the rate of progress. No sanitarian can be at the present time, but one has to carry out Public Health work as they can and not as they would like.

I am satisfied that when the times are more opportune the Council will, as always, be in the forefront with any measures likely to benefit the people of Worsley.

I again wish to thank Dr. Carroll and the members of the department for their help and consideration during the year, and to those who by their co-operation have helped to make the way a little smoother for all concerned.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS ISHERWOOD,

Senior Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent

